

Cohasset Mariner

The Mariner (and supplements) is a paid circulation newspaper published every Thursday at 541 Plain St., Marshfield, Mass. 02050 for and about the residents of Cohasset. Telephone 383-6321 or 837-3500. Mailing address: Box 71, Cohasset, Mass. 02025. Second class postage paid at Marshfield, Mass. 02050.

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As the Mariner goes to press Tuesday night, all news and advertising copy must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. Classified advertising must be received by Monday at noon. Readers are invited to submit personal items, accounts of social functions, meetings, weddings and engagements. Photographs (black and white glossy) are also welcome.

Subscription rates: in-town \$8 for one year and \$14 for two years; out-of-town \$10 for one year and \$17 for nine months.

Postmaster: Send Form 3579 to Box 682, Marshfield, Mass. 02050

Editorials

Class Of '79

We at the Mariner have had occasion to grow fond of the Class of '79. We have been critical at times, but for the most part, we have been cheered by the young people we have come to know...by their essential optimism and what we perceive as their uplifting spirits. We have been especially pleased with those who have worked with us in one capacity or another.

Graduations stay in the mind. We remember our own as if it were yesterday. We recall thinking the middle years — the thirties and forties and beyond — as being an eternity. In retrospect, those years skipped by too quickly. But the joy of commencement remains fixed.

Last year, Rodney Dangerfield spoke at the baccalaureate of Harvard College, and after running through his "I don't get no respect" routine, offered two words of advice to departing seniors.

"Don't go," he said.

We say "Don't go," and we say it because we need you.

Ten years ago graduating seniors faced the prospect of fighting an unpopular jungle war in Vietnam. This year's class enters a world at peace. But there are still challenges and, as Robert Frost wrote, "Miles to go before we sleep."

There is still hunger and poverty around us. There are the loss of resources and wildlife...outmoded methodology and an omnipresent technology that threatens to overwhelm. There is crime and corruption...apathy...disease. There is bigotry. There is the energy crisis which, despite our best protests, looms as a parlous threat that will eventually change the way we live.

The Class of '79 will decide just how those changes will be made.

At commencement, we always look ahead; we hope for something better and that is no different this year. To the seniors who will go, we say congratulations on what you have done. We look forward to what you will do.

Finally, some mundane advice. If June is a month of joy, it is also a time of tragedy. Not a June has passed in 20 years without our reading that this son or daughter, a recent graduate of that high school, will never get gray in their sideburns or have a baby of their own. We worry that this June will be no different...that more tragedies will push their way onto the front page.

So some frank advice that you've heard before and will again. If you have been drinking, don't drive; let someone else take the wheel. If you are with someone who is drunk, don't ride with them; walk home if you have to. Let the drunk who insists on driving get offended and deal with parental displeasure in the morning.

Finally, stop the drunk from driving if you can. Take his keys and don't give them up. If a temper tantrum ensues, you will know you were right and that tomorrow, when the sideburns turn gray and babies start going to hockey camp, you'll be thanked.

From the Mariner, we wish you the very best.

Commentary

Short Gas Means Substitutes

As it now appears, this summer may be a difficult one for family vacations, trips and, in general, the pursuit of recreational activities. The essential problem being our demands on gas for both travel and pleasure.

Where it stands to reason we will not be able to take our trips, drive to our recreational areas or plan to go too far from home as we have been accustomed to, we will turn to our local governments to provide recreational opportunities within the boundaries of our individual towns and cities.

The gas crisis should be a mandate to public officials to offer broad spectrum, multi-interest, and comprehensive recreation programs for all ages. In so doing, citizens are not only afforded an alternative to travel, but town officials will be playing an important role in helping to cut down the volume of gasoline that would ordinarily be consumed in the pursuit of recreation and leisure time activities, hence travel.

Recreation professionals should view the current crisis as a challenge for more comprehensive programming. Traditionally, many summer community recreation programs have been geared primarily to the young. While needs for this type of pro-

[Following is a commentary by John Worley, Recreation Director]

gramming are as important as ever, leisure needs for adults must also be identified and appropriate programming offered.

'Home bound' recreation may take form in a multitude of ways. Structured programs are, perhaps, the matrix of most recreation department offerings. However, as a supplement to the structured programs, it is necessary to offer a variety of special events and activities of an non-continuous nature. In so doing more types of activities, appealing to a broader range of interest groups and ages, can be offered by each municipal department.

Perhaps the concept of 'family recreation' becomes even more important now. This concept simply stated, involves programs that appeal to the entire family i.e. all ages, and offers the opportunity for the family to recreate as a unit, in the same place, at the same time. The advantages of 'family recreation' range from sociological to economical.

Band concerts, movies, fishing tournaments, jogging clinics, golf tournaments and many other family oriented

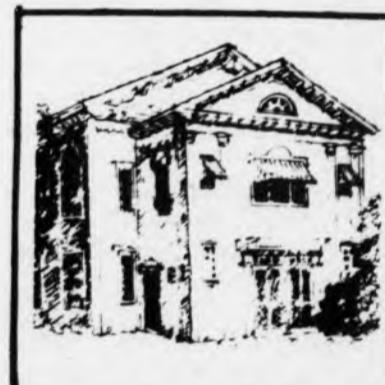
special activities are the types of activities, of a non-continuous nature, that not only may appeal to the entire family, but can accommodate large numbers of individuals as well as meet the needs of many interest groups.

Local areas for passive recreation must be provided and maintained by each municipality for use by residents. While most towns do have varying amounts of lands set aside for this purpose, there will probably be a critical shortage, in the near future, for both passive and active recreational lands, facilities, and areas.

Now is the time to plan for our not so distant future needs.

The gas crisis is upon us. It makes little difference of why we are being afflicted by it, all that matters is how we respond to it. The field of recreation is usually the first to feel repercussions from economical stress. It should, therefore, be the field of recreation that responds first to our current problem. It offers a challenge to all of us. Town Officials and residents alike. We must meet the challenge with innovation and positive attitudes. We must remain flexible and seek alternatives to our present life styles. We are, after all, facing a change in our life style like it or not!

Around Town Hall



3A. The club, which was given permission to use town property, is under suspicion of

being used as a tax-free residence. Selectman Arthur Clark is anxious to find out if an organization still exists there.

SCITUATE REMINDED

Selectmen Arthur Clark reminded his board that Scituate officials are due back with further suggestions regarding mutual harbor concerns. Scituate's Town Administrator and Harbormaster two months ago had offered to pay Cohasset one half of the mooring fees of Scituate boats anchored in Cohasset harbor.

Selectmen had agreed to further discuss the matter after Town Meetings were over in both towns, but Scituate has not yet revisited Cohasset. Cohasset officials agreed that a reminder to Scituate is in order. Cohasset would like to share a part of the harbor's upkeep with that neighboring town.

PARKER AVE.

Selectman Rocco Laugelle said the ramp to the harbor on Parker Avenue is in need of repair. Laugelle said that the asphalt on the ramp is being torn up from the large hydraulic boom used there to get boats in the water. Laugelle suggested repairing the ramp with cement which would better stand the strain of heavy equipment.

Litchfield To Investigate

Zoning Officer James Litchfield will further investigate possible zoning violations by Wayne Sawchuk at his mother's property at 302 North Main St., as directed by Selectmen last week.

Litchfield issued Sawchuk a cease and desist order two weeks ago for stockpiling stone and gravel in a residential area. Selectmen requested Litchfield's attendance at their meeting last week to discuss the matter. Sawchuk wasn't requested to attend and he did not.

Litchfield said he received a letter from Sawchuk which claimed that the stockpiling

wasn't intended to fill wetlands. The letter further stated that Sawchuk would obtain affidavits from neighbors attesting that businesses have been conducted at that property for 75 years and weren't subject of zoning by-laws.

Litchfield agreed that the stockpiling was not in a wetlands area but was near water. Selectman Rocco Laugelle said he had "heard around" that a brook near the property was being diverted by a pipe. Litchfield said he hadn't observed the brook but that he would look for it and would take photographs of the involved area.